

the Gateway

Vol. 62, No. 24, Dec. 3, 2004, Rhein-Main AB, Germany

USAFE's Best Small Funded Newspaper for 2003



News Briefs

Commander's call

Commander's call for the 469th Air Base Group is set for 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Dec. 17 at the Community Connection. Uniform is battle dress uniform.

New promotees

Congratulations to Rhein-Main's newest promotees who received their new stripes during monthly promotion ceremonies Tuesday:

■ **Tech. Sgt. James Flynn**, deployed to the 469th Air Base Group Security Forces Flight from Spangdahlem Air Base;

■ **Staff Sgt. Sinnakone Thongphadith**, deployed to the 469th ABG Services Flight from Moody Air Force Base, Ga.;

■ **Senior Airman Jubal Walker**, 469th ABG/SF;

■ **Airman 1st Class B'Nekia Curtis**, 469th ABG/SV;

From the 726th Air Mobility Squadron:

■ **Senior Master Sgt. Kathleen Noles**; **Master Sgt. Darryl Nelson**; **Staff Sgts. John Cook, Matthew Dexheimer, Frank Gozukizil and James King**; **Senior Airmen Jason McCarthy and Darren Nolan** and **Airman 1st Class Chealsie Medford**.

Postal volunteers

Volunteers are always needed at the base post office, especially during the holiday season during morning hours and on Saturdays.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Staff Sgt. Jamal Rahmon.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

First responder

Staff Sgt. Brent Watkins, 469th Air Base Group Civil Engineer Flight firefighter, checks the condition of a simulated casualty following a simulated plane crash during a major accident response exercise Tuesday. The exercise tested Team Rhein-Main's ability to respond to a mass casualty situation.

World class

Base firefighters challenge the best in Las Vegas

By Airman 1st Class Eric Donner
Public Affairs

The Scott Firefighter Combat Challenge has been called 'the toughest two minutes in sports.'

The 2004 World Challenge XIII, Nov. 9-13 in Las Vegas, attracted hundreds of firefighters from around the world and was seen by more than 30 million people on ESPN.

Airman 1st Class Brandon Cunningham and Staff Sgt. Brent Watkins, 469th Air Base Group Civil Engineer

Flight firefighters, represented Rhein-Main and U.S. Air Forces in Europe in the individual portion of the competition.

In only his second year of competition, Airman Cunningham wowed the crowd by blazing the course in 1 minute 26 seconds, good for 4th in the world. Sergeant Watkins, in his first season, placed 59th with a best of 1:42.

"We trained together pushing each other and picking the other up when he got down," said Airman Cunningham.

— See *Firefighters*, Pages 6-7

Pay raise, housing costs cut

3.5 percent across the board; out-of-pocket housing expenses eliminated by 2005 Defense Act

By Gerry Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON— Money contained within the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act will fund a 3.5 percent troop pay raise and eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket costs for family housing, DoD's top military personnel official noted.

The January troop pay raise will be applied across the board to all servicemembers and won't feature pay hikes targeted to specific ranks as in past years, David S. C. Chu, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said during a recent Pentagon interview.

The targeted raises issued to mid-level officers and noncommissioned officers over the past two years, Chu explained, "have fixed," for now, most pay-disparity issues involving those ranks.

And, he noted, money is contained in the 2005 act to boost allowances that now eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket expenses used for on- or off-post family housing. Stateside and overseas family housing allowances are calculated according to regional markets.

Another provision in the 2005 NDAA removes a previously established ceiling limiting how much military family-housing inventory could be privatized, Chu said.

Privatization enables DoD to modernize its military family housing more quickly and efficiently, Chu said. About one-

third of military families live in on-post housing.

If DoD funded all of its existing family-housing needs by itself, Chu explained, it would take the department "forever" to make needed repairs or to replace aging housing units largely built in the 1950s.

Chu pointed to privatization success stories, such as contractor-provided housing for soldiers and their families at Fort Carson, Colo. Such private sector-provided housing offers contemporary quality and "design flair" for servicemembers while providing more bang for the buck for taxpayers.

The act also contains three special pay and bonus authorities, Chu noted. For example, the bill makes permanent the increase to military family separation pay to \$250 a month and likewise hostile fire/imminent danger pay at \$225 a month.

The bill also provides "a much stronger set" of re-enlistment bonuses for Guard and Reserve members.

Chu said the '05 NDAA ensures that troops in the field receive the equipment and other material they require to successfully prosecute the global war against terrorism.

The bill also provides extended health coverage for some reservists, Chu noted, as well as better Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits.

Another change contained in the '05 NDAA enables reservists to be called up for training before possible overseas deployment. This, Chu pointed out, is a more efficient means of force management.

A major highlight of military personnel management during his tenure, Chu observed, involves successive increases in troop compensation.

"The president has been willing to carry the torch for us to argue for significant pay increases," Chu noted, as well as to reduce and eventually eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket costs for military housing.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

Go-go juice

Tech. Sgt. William Scheer, a fuels journeyman deployed to the 469th Air Base Group from the Air National Guard's 115th Fighter Wing at Truax Field, Madison, Wis. tops off a C-17 headed downrange Wednesday. An average refueling for a C-17 at Rhein-Main takes four 6,000-gallon R-11 fuel trucks or about 152,000 pounds of JP-8 jet fuel. The Pacific Architects and Engineers fuel section pumped 6,566,736 gallons of JP-8 in November.

All the trimmins'

Col. Phil Smith, 1st Personnel Command commander, (right) and Command Sgt. Maj. John Gathers, 1st PERSCOM, (second from right) serve up Thanksgiving dinner Nov. 25 at the 64th Replacement Company Dining Facility at Rhein-Main. Several Army and Air Force volunteers served nearly 500 patrons a dinner that included turkey, prime rib, ham, duck, crab legs, lobster tail and all the trimmings.



Photo by Master Sgt. Ray Conway

AF deploys new training uniform

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — When the Air Force chief of staff announced a new fitness standard in July 2003, he promised Airmen a new physical training uniform in which to prepare.

That new uniform is now ready, and Airmen serving in Southwest Asia will be the first to get them, said Senior Master Sgt. Jacqueline Dean, the Air Force uniform board superintendent.

The new unisex uniform can be worn off-the-shelf, requiring no modifications. It consists of a T-shirt, a pair of shorts and a two-piece nylon running suit. With the exception of the grey T-shirt, the entire ensemble is navy blue. It was designed with comfort and safety in mind, officials said.

"One of the biggest directions from (General Jumper) was that it had plenty of reflectivity," Sergeant Dean said.

The uniform has enough reflective material on it to ensure wearers are

Look & Learn

Airmen can see the guidelines for wearing the new uniform at www.af.mil/news/wear_policy.pdf. To get a look at the new uniform, log on to www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009105.

visible from any direction.

The running suit top, a kind of lightweight coat similar to what is being used by cadets at the Air Force Academy, features wide reflective stripes that form a 'V' across the wearer's chest and back. Seams on the pants are trimmed with reflective piping, while the shorts feature both a reflective 'V' and an Air Force logo. The T-shirt has the Air Force logo on both the front and back.

Wear testing for the uniform began in January at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., and Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Three hundred Airmen tested the uniforms for both comfort and usability.

Besides reflectivity, some key features of the uniform include two pockets in the shorts; one for a military identification

card and one for a key; zippers on the running pants to make it easier to slip them on over a pair of shoes, zippers on the running jacket to aid in ventilation; and a hood in the collar of the jacket.

Total cost for the new uniform is around \$125. Enlisted Airmen will be given an increase in their yearly clothing allowance to purchase the uniform, those in basic military training will be issued the gear, and officers will be required to purchase the uniform with their own funds. The uniforms will eventually be available for sale in military clothing sales stores.

"We are hoping to start seeing some of the PT uniforms stateside in the January or February timeframe," Sergeant Dean said.

Sergeant Dean said there is not yet an official mandatory wear date for the uniform. When Air Force officials do set the date, Airmen will be required to maintain a complete uniform in much the same way they do their battle dress uniforms and blues.

Traditions help build families

By Lt. Col. Thomas Summers

741st Missile Squadron commander

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. (AFP) — Everyone values his or her family. Out of our sense of family and patriotic duty, many active-duty members, Guardsman, Reservists and civilians serve the military with their immediate families standing by their side each step of the way.

Most left their familiar hometowns and asked their families to accompany them or stay behind as those in uniform serve our country.

Although we come from many diverse backgrounds, cultures and traditions, we share a common spirit of patriotism, confidence and purpose on one team, in one force and as one Air Force family.

Right now, some may feel a sense of sorrow or distress because they can't go home for the holidays due to mission requirements.

Don't despair. You're not alone. One positive way to help manage sadness and stress during the holiday season and build healthy families is by practicing time-honored family and Air Force traditions or by establishing new ones.

Traditions help us stay close to family and friends and show how much we care about those around us,

especially during the holidays.

Without the normal daily distractions, holiday rituals and traditions ensure we do the things we value with the people we love. For example, many families enjoy making and then eating favorite treats, special dishes or ethnic foods for Thanksgiving.

In addition, we keep in touch and stay current through phone calls, family newsletters, e-mails and photographs. Also, we show our care and love for each other with gifts, preparations and spontaneous displays of emotion.

By practicing our favorite traditions, we feel more relaxed and comfortable enough to openly express our heartfelt appreciation for one another.

When we talk longingly about our dad's reading of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas', our mother's

delicious homemade turkey dinner or remembering the year we finally "graduated" from sitting at the kids' table to eating with the adults, it is the emotions and good feelings connected to those experiences we really miss.

Traditions also help us build a family identity. In our immediate and Air Force families, our traditions help us establish how we communicate, how we make decisions and solve problems as well as how we celebrate holidays,



See *Traditions*, Page 5

The Action Line is one way for me to keep my finger on the pulse of the Rhein-Main community and is used as an avenue for communication.

The main objective of the Commander's Action Line is finding solutions to problems or providing explanations for processes.

If you experience problems at Rhein-Main, you should always try to resolve problems at the lowest level by contacting the unit or agency managers. In almost every case, your chain of command is the best solution. I strongly encourage everyone to use that route first. When normal channels haven't been able to resolve your issues, feel free to send an e-mail to Hotline@rheinmain.af.mil or call 330-7779. Please include your name and contact information along with your concern.

Action Lines are forwarded to the appropriate agency for action and response. They should contact you within 24 hours. Once an Action Line is started, the agency must provide a complete answer to me within 10 days.

The 469th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office is responsible for managing the Action Line program on my behalf. If you have any questions, call Public Affairs.



Col. Bradley Denison
Commander, 469th Air Base Group

330-7779

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the Gateway

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The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office, Rhein-Main AB, Germany. Printing service is provided by ABC Druck, Liederbach. People may submit articles for publication to the public affairs office, Bldg. 347, Room 139, or email them to pa@rheinmain.af.mil. Submission

by deadline does not guarantee publication, however, all articles will be considered. The staff may be reached by calling 330-7804. All photos are property of the U.S. Air Force unless otherwise noted.

*The deadline for the Dec. 17
edition of the Gateway is
4 p.m. Dec. 9.*

Warriors of the Week



Tech. Sgt. June Geter

Unit: 469th Air Base Group Services Flight
Time in Air Force: 17 years
Time at Rhein-Main: 3 months
Duty Title: Contingency lodging front desk superintendent
Hometown: Newnan, Georgia
Hobbies: Singing and reading.
What has been your best Air Force experience?
 Singing the National Anthem while deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base – the start of my Air Force singing career.



John Williams

Unit: 469th Air Base Group Services Flight
Time in government service: 17 years
Time at Rhein-Main: 12 years
Duty Title: Closure supply clerk
Hometown: Albuquerque, N.M.
Hobbies: Camping, fishing and golf.
What has been your best Air Force experience?
 Having the opportunity to meet and work with great people along the way.

TRADITIONS, from Page 4

milestones and other events.

Our traditions say, "This is how we do things in this family. This is how we decorate our Christmas tree. This is how we practice our spiritual beliefs. This is how we take care of our Airmen. This is who we are."

The older members of our family and Air Force bring patience, wisdom and colorful stories while the younger members bring youthful wonder, energy and excitement as together we bridge generations and enrich each others' lives.

Furthermore, traditions help provide us settings to teach family values. Just as the Air Force teaches the core values of integrity, service and excellence, other family traditions help teach family values through repetition.

Since we learn powerful lessons from the activities we repeat year after year, many rituals and traditions foster a tranquil and cheerful atmosphere where learning is likely to flourish.

Over time, our family and Air Force values become a part of who we are.

Traditions promote healthy family growth and give us many wonderful reasons to celebrate life together. No matter where this holiday season finds you, observing past or crafting new traditions are fantastic ways of building strong, caring and happy families.

Commander recognizes non-U.S. employees

Col. Brad Denison, 469th Air Base Group commander, recognized the accomplishments of 11 non-U.S. employees during a ceremony Wednesday at the base chapel.

The following employees were presented pins and certificates for their respective years of service:

- Irene Lee, 469th ABG Logistics Flight – 35 years
- Dr. Maria Barth, 469th ABG Clinic – 30 years
- Regina Green, Halvorsen-Tunner School – 30 years
- Mohammed Athur Ali, 469th ABG/LG – 25 years
- Heinz Gross, 469th ABG/CEF – 25 years
- Gerhard Mende, 469th ABG Civil Engineer Flight – 20 years
- Peter Naegler, 469th ABG/CEF – 20 years
- Peter Reichow, 469th ABG Security Forces Flight – 20 years
- Maria Dullaghan, 726th Air Mobility Squadron – 15 years
- Antonia Freeman, Rhein-Main Commissary – 15 years
- Andreas Pfitzner, 469th ABG/SF – 15 years
- Juergen Wagner, 469th ABG Services Flight – 15 years

Two employees who recently accepted positions with the U.S. Army are:

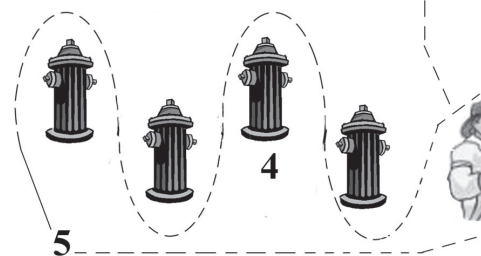
- Masaneh Ceesay, 469th ABG/CEF – 25 years
- Monika Salfelder, 469th ABG Public Affairs – 20 years



(Above) Airman 1st Class Brandon Cunningham, 469th Air Base Group Civil Engineer Flight firefighter, hustles through the cones at the World Challenge XII in Las Vegas recently. (Right) Airman Cunningham at the base fire house.

Finish

7



(1) The Scott Firefighter Combat Challenge starts with a 150-foot dash carrying a 45-pound firehose. (2) The next task is running up a five-story building. (3) Then it's on to a 160-pound sled. A 140-foot zigzag course is next, followed by a 175-foot dummy drag. A portion of the event is a 100-foot drag of a 175-pound dummy.

FIREFIGHTERS, from Pa

While the course pits firefighters running against each other, the real opponent is the clock. The firefighters at the competition are not like most sports competitors – the more experienced competitors often offer tips and suggestions.

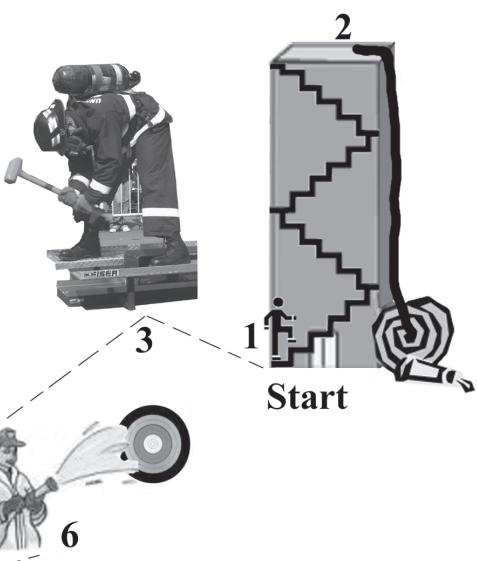
“You don’t run against the guy next to you,” said Sergeant Watkins. “You are running against the clock.”

Firefighters run the course in 45 pounds of bunker gear, including an oxygen tank and mask. They begin by running up five flights of stairs carrying a 45-pound hose over the shoulder. At the top the hose is dropped and competitors begin to pull another hose, attached to a rope, up the side of the five-story building.

The firefighters then race down the steps – making sure to touch each step on the way down. From there they grab a nine-pound hammer at the Keiser sled and knock the 160-pound sled backwards between their legs.

From the sled they’re off through a 140-foot zigzag. At the far end they grab a pressurized hose and pull it through a simulated doorway while charging the hose and trying to hit a small target. The finale is a 175-pound dummy drag of 100 feet.

The goal is to complete the course in less than two minutes.



Graphic by 1st Lt. Uriah Orland

He begins with a five-flight stair climb while the task is to pull a similar hose up the side of the stairs. (4) A firefighter drags a 175-pound dummy (5) and target (6). The final task is to pull a hose up the side of the stairs.



(Left) Staff Sgt. Brent Watkins, 469th Air Base Group Civil Engineer Flight firefighter, strains to drag a 175-pound dummy across the finish line. (Above) Sergeant Watkins at the base fire house. (Below) Airman Cunningham leans into the pressurized hose just before he goes for the target.

Page 1

How they finished

The top four finishers in the individual competition at the World Challenge XIII were:

- 1) Eric Aker, "DoD Fire Academy" – 1:23.92
- 2) Jack Bailey, "TEAM TREGASKISS" – 1:24.84
- 3) Mike Melton, "TEAM TRAVIS" – 1:26.39
- 4) Brandon Cunningham, "Rhein-Main" – 1:26.51

Top two teams were:

- 1) TEAM TRAVIS from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., – 4:25.83
- 2) TEAM TREGASKISS – 4:26.19

Airman Cunningham doesn't only try to recruit team members from the base fire house, he has also reached out to the local German community to include them in the competition.

He became involved with several German firefighters from Ludwigshafen and Bad Langensalza with the help of his wife. She found on the Internet that Germany also has a firefighter's competition. After competing in a German competition, Cunningham invited the German firefighters to compete in the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Combat Firefighter Challenge at Ramstein.

"They ran the course a couple of times and really enjoyed it," said Airman Cunningham.

The German firefighters qualified for the World Challenge based on their performance at Ramstein and took the five best team members to Las Vegas.

Airman Cunningham will take a break from competition to give his muscles a chance to recover. His training will start again soon and will be as intense as ever.

He plans on competing in four events, both here and in the states. Sergeant Watkins also plans on taking some time off, but "I'll be back next year," he said.



Photos by Karen Abeyasekera & Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

"These are all exercises you use in real world situations – you are always going to need more hose," said Sergeant Watkins.

As if the competition isn't enough, competitors have video cameras and hundreds of spectators watching their every move. The competition might look mostly physical, but a large part of it is mental, according to Airman Cunningham.

"If you make sure the training is done, it's like a cassette where you just push play," he said. "We literally run the course hundreds of times. I sometimes hear someone yelling but mostly everything is blacked out."



Around Rhein-Main

Mailing deadlines

U.S. Air Forces in Europe Air Postal Squadron officials recently announced the dates to mail packages to ensure they reach the United States in time for the holidays.

To ensure a Christmas delivery, mail packages and letters no later than the following dates:

- Priority Parcels – Dec. 11
- First Class Letters – Dec. 11
- Express Mail – Dec. 20

For more information on mailing guidelines, contact the Rhein-Main post office at 330-6384.

School news

Halvorsen-Tunner American School has several events lined up for December, including:

■ 9 - 11 a.m. Monday – St. Nicholas will visit classrooms and give out bread men from a Germany bakery.

■ 2:45 - 4 p.m. Wednesday – Family reading and holiday crafts at the base library.

■ 5:30 - 8 p.m. Wednesday – Santa's Workshop kicks off. The workshop is a chance for kids to buy inexpensive gifts for parents and family members. Photos with Santa will also be available.

■ 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Thursday and Dec. 10 – Children can shop at Santa's Workshop with their classmates.

■ 6 p.m. Dec. 15 – Holiday concert in school gymnasium.

Scholarships

The Defense Commissary Agency is accepting scholarship applications for the Scholarships for Military Children program, which will award at least one \$1,500 scholarship per commissary location with qualified applicants.

The program, administered by the Fisher House Foundation and funded by the manufacturers and industry supporting commissaries, has awarded over \$3 million through nearly 2,000 scholarships to the sons and daughters of active duty, Guard and Reserve members, and military retirees.

Applications for the 2005 program are available at the base commissary, according to store director Linda Foreback. Applications are also available online at www.militaryscholar.org and a link to the program will be on www.commissaries.com, the DeCA Web site.

Applications, which must include an essay on how the heightened awareness of terrorism has impacted the student's life, are due back at the commissary by close of business Feb. 16.

The scholarship program is open to unmarried children under the age of 21 (23 if enrolled in school) of active duty personnel, Reserve, Guard and retired military.

Applicants must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2005, or enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

School survey

The Department of Defense Education Activity launched its 2004 Customer Satisfaction Survey Nov. 1 providing 4th to 12th grade DoDEA students, the parents/sponsors of all DoDEA students, and DoDEA teachers the opportunity to give feedback regarding their views on the DoDEA schools, programs and activities.

The survey is scheduled to remain online until Feb. 28, during which time all eligible parties are encouraged to participate. The findings of the survey will be given consideration in all future efforts to improve upon the educational experience that DoDDS schools provide.

The survey is completely anonymous and can be completed online by logging onto the DoDEA Web site at www.DoDEA.edu and clicking on the Customer Satisfaction Survey link. Any eligible party who does not have access to the online survey may complete a print version of the survey available at any DoDEA school. The survey should take between 10 and 20 minutes to complete.

The findings of the survey, including the participation rates of all eligible groups,



Closure Corner

This section is devoted to giving the Rhein-Main Community the most up-to-date information concerning base closure issues. All dates presented in this section are subject to change based on: manpower figures, personnel assignment information and ongoing U.S. Air Forces in Europe coordination.

Civilian personnel

The Ramstein Civilian Personnel Flight is now soliciting applications for Voluntary Early Retirement Authority and/or Voluntary Separation Incentive Program from Rhein-Main employees in anticipation of base closure.

Permanent civilian appropriated fund employees stationed at Rhein-Main are eligible to apply. Application forms are available from Capt. Christopher Aliphat in Bldg. 347, Room 110 or Maura Braganza, Room 218. Applicants can return completed forms to Captain Aliphat or Mrs. Braganza or mail or fax applications directly to:

**2120 Lawn Avenue, 66877
Ramstein-Miesenbach**

Or:

**435 MSS/DPC, Unit 3220 Box
365, APO AE 09094
Fax: Local 06371-47-9991 or
DSN 480-9991**

Applications must be received by 4 p.m. Dec. 17.

For information regarding retirement and to get an estimate of a retirement annuity, contact the Ramstein Employee Management Relations Specialist at 480-4213 or 480-2697.

will be published in spring 2005.

Anyone wishing to review the results of the previous DoDEA Customer Satisfaction Survey, conducted during school year 2002-03, will find a link to a report of those findings on the DoDEA home page.

Rhein-Main blotter

compiled by Tech. Sgt. Mark Long

Oct. 30 — Patrols detained two females at the main gate for being on base without their sponsor. The two were taken to tent city to identify the sponsor, who was detained for failure to obey an order/regulation.

Oct. 31 — Patrols detained an individual at one of the gates to base housing who was using provoking speech/gestures to a civilian guard.

Nov. 2 — Patrols made contact with an individual who accidentally stabbed himself in the chest with a Gerber knife while trying to dismantle an electronic game.

Nov. 7 — Patrols administered an Intoxilyzer test to an Airman believed to be drunk on duty. The subject was found to be under the influence of alcohol and was charged accordingly.

Nov. 11 — Patrols apprehended two individuals trying to gain illegal access to a vehicle near the 64th Replacement Company barracks.

Nov. 11 — Patrols broke

up a fight outside of the Rocket Sports Lounge and apprehended two individuals.

Nov. 13 — Patrols apprehended a subject entering the 64th RC barracks. According to a bartender at the Rocket Sports Lounge the subject had earlier refused to leave the lounge. When asked to leave the subject threw bottles and condiments.

Nov. 13 — Patrols detained an individual for failure to obey an order/regulation. The individual sponsored seven people onto the base and then left them unescorted.

Nov. 13 — Two TDY personnel reported a total of three people were assaulted at a club named Cookies. The individuals said they were jumped by a bouncer and another subject as they tried to enter the bar. The third person assaulted was transported to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center for treatment.

Nov. 16 — Security Forces received a report of an individual who was involved in an accident on

**Crime Stop
Hotline
330-7171**

Nov. 13. The individual said they could have hit a barrier on the day in question, but she was not sure. Damage to the vehicle consisted of two flat tires, two dented rims and scratches to the bottom of the bumper.

Nov. 18 — A female reported she saw a male rip the license plate off her car and then begin to bang on her apartment door. When the subject finished banging on her door he went to his own room. Patrols responded to the subject's room and found a set of license plates on his bed. The subject was apprehended, searched and transported to the law enforcement desk. While logging in the subject's personal items, the desk sergeant found what appeared to be a controlled substance. The substance tested positive for marijuana. Upon further investigation, patrols found a car on fire and more than 10 vehicles that had been vandalized.



DUI/DWI Tracker

Days without DUIs (As of Tuesday)

469th Air Base Group

30 days

726th Air Mobility Squadron

307 days

64th Replacement Company

198 days

Tenant Units

163 days

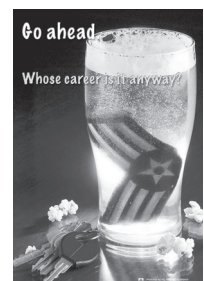
Others

125 days

The 469th ABG Top IV provides a

fund at the main gate for permanent party personnel who take a taxi back to the base instead of driving while intoxicated.

The money used must be reimbursed the next duty day.



*Sports briefs***Preseason champs**

The 469th Air Base Group team defeated the 469th ABG Security Forces Flight 40-30 in overtime in the championship of the Rhein-Main intramural preseason basketball tournament Nov. 18.

Jake Strawn led the 469th ABG charge with seven points. **Nate Jance** and **Jonathan Walker** chipped in with six apiece.

Marcus Allen led SF with 12 points.

Football awards

The Rhein-Main Wildcats Bantam Flag Football Team, undefeated champions (9-0) of the 104th Area Support Group, held a banquet Nov. 20 at the base chapel.

The most valuable players on the offensive side of the ball were **Terrance Garner** and **David Wells**. The most valuable defensive player was **Andre Dean**.

Turkey trot winners

More than 60 runners took part in the Rhein-Main 5K Turkey Trot Nov. 22 at the base fitness center.

Winners received 18-pound turkeys compliments of the base commissary. They are:

18-29 Division

Male – **Michael Cappola** 21:20

Female – **Brandi Hutchinson** 25:30

30-39 Division

Male – **Kevin Wilkinson** 21:39

Female – **Sheryl Cooks** 26:12

40+

Male – **David Saunders** 22:35

Female – **Heidi Polhemus** 23:51

Basketball registration

The youth center will conduct youth basketball registration thru Dec. 15 for ages 5 - 15.

Call 330-7125 for more information.

Intramural results

The intramural basketball season tipped off Tuesday with three games on the slate.

The 469th Air Base Group Security Forces Flight defeated the 726th Air



Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

In the paint

Nathan Chipman, 64th Replacement Company forward, scores two in intramural basketball action vs. the American Consulate Tuesday at the base fitness center. The 64th RC defeated the Consulate 52-27. The intramural season got under way Tuesday with six teams vying for the final basketball crown in the history of Rhein-Main.

Mobility Squadron 44-43 to open the action. In the second game the 64th Replacement Company handily defeated the American Consulate 52-27. In the nightcap, the 469th ABG defeated the 469th ABG Civil Engineer Flight 48-32.

Jingle bell

A 5K Jingle Bell Fun Run is set for 3:30 p.m. Dec. 15 at the base fitness center. The run is also a benefit for the Ma-

rine Corps "Toys for Tots" program.

Runners are encouraged to bring new toys for needy children. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Mark Cave .

Racquetball tourney

The base fitness centers sponsors a racquetball tournament at 10 a.m. Dec. 18.

Call 330-7151 to sign up or for more information.

Action board

A Rhein-Main Community Action Information Board meeting is set for 10 a.m. Tuesday in the conference room of Bldg. 347.

The CAIB meets to discuss issues regarding the community. Residents can send issues or questions to be brought up during the meeting by e-mail to Judy Maughan or Geraldine Ravago or by calling 330-7992.

Federal employment

The family support center sponsors a "10 Steps to Federal Employment," class from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday at the FSC classroom in Bldg. 347.

The class is designed to help people get their foot in the door to a civil service career. Call the FSC or stop by to sign up.

At the alleys

The Rocket Bowling Center offers free bowling every Thursday for unaccompanied and TDY servicemembers. Members should show their dormitory or hotel key to receive the special.

Friday nights are designed for the fam-

ily, with a \$5 "All you can bowl" special.

Look for more information coming soon about the center's New Year's Eve party.

For more information, call the center at 330-7219.

Open house

The FSC will host a Holiday Open House from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday.

The entire Rhein-Main community is invited to stop by for free food and drink.

Call 330-7992 for more details.

Give parents a break

The Give Parents a Break program, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Dec. 10, is designed to provide help for families with children from 6 weeks to 5 years. Referrals are made through commanders, first sergeants, the chapel, clinic, family advocacy, FSC or child development center.

Contact the CDC at 330-7017 or FSC at 330-7992 for more information.

Holiday hours

The base post office finance and parcel pick-up window will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Dec. 11 and 18.

USO trips

The USO offers two trips to Christmas markets Dec. 11 and 12.

The Dec. 11 trip will take participants to the Christmas market in Metz, France. Cost is \$35 for adults and \$25 for children under 12. Sign-up deadline is Wednesday.

The Dec. 12 excursion is a train trip to the Cologne Christmas Market. Cost is \$35 for adults and free for children under 6. Sign-up deadline is Thursday.

Call 330-6424 or visit the USO office in the passenger terminal, Bldg. 400, for more information.

Holiday worship

Following is a portion of the Rhein-Main Chapel Combat Touch 2004 holiday worship calendar:

Catholic Community

- Sunday – 2nd Sunday of Advent, mass at 9 a.m.
- Tuesday – Vigil Feast of the Immaculate Conception, mass at 5 p.m.
- Wednesday – Immaculate Conception

Movies at Rhein-Main

Tonight - "Ray," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Saturday - "The Forgotten," (PG-13), 5 p.m. and "Resident Evil: Apocalypse," (R), 7:30 p.m.

Sunday - "Alien vs. Predator," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Tuesday - "Spongebob Squarepants Movie," (PG), 7 p.m.

Wednesday - "National Treasure," (PG), 7 p.m.

Dec. 10 - "Raise Your Voice," (PG), 7 p.m.

Dec. 11 - "The Incredibles," (PG), 5 p.m., and "Ladder 49," (PG-13), 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 12 - "First Daughter," (PG), 7 p.m.

Dec. 14 - "Alexander," (R), 7 p.m.

Dec. 15 - "Christmas with the Kranks," (PG), 7 p.m.

Dec. 16 - "Christmas with the Kranks," (PG), 7 p.m.

Dec. 17 - "After the Sunset," (PG-13), 7 p.m. and "Taxi," (PG-13), 9:30 p.m.

Movies and times are subject to change.

Movie schedules for local communities

can be found at

www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp

For sale

1990 BMW 525, 4-dr., gray interior/exterior, 250Km - \$2,500 OBO; mini-fridge(like new) - \$100; 21" TV (like new) - \$100; microwave (like new) - \$50. Contact Lou or Dasha at 0174-436-6508.

of the Blessed Virgin Mary, mass at 11:30 a.m.

■ Dec. 12 – 3rd Sunday of Advent, mass at 9 a.m.


■ Dec. 19 – 4th Sunday of Advent, mass at 9 a.m.

Protestant Community

■ Sunday – 2nd Sunday of Advent, worship at 10:30 a.m. (communion)

■ Dec. 12 – 3rd Sunday of Advent, 1030 Worship and cantata (He is Born-Child Divine)

■ Dec. 19 – 4th Sunday of Advent, 10:30 a.m. Worship



HE IS BORN

CHILD DIVINE

A Dramatic Musical for Christmas

Dennis & Nan Allen

Rhein-Main Chapel
Protestant Christmas Cantata

10:30 a.m. Dec. 12
Chapel Sanctuary

Everyone is welcome



Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service AutoPride ServiCenter at Mainz-Kastel offers a variety of services to include oil changes, wheel alignments, brake inspection and service and cooling system service.

If you go...



The AAFES car center at Hanau is located immediately across the street from Pioneer Kaserne. The Hanau Auto Craft Shop is located in Bldg. 625. To get to the auto craft shop, head towards Wolfgang Kaserne, where the post exchange and commissary are located. Instead of turning left into Wolfgang, proceed straight ahead until you come to the next traffic light. Make a right-hand turn at the light and then turn left at the next traffic light. Continue on this road until you see a large warehouse building on the left side of the road. The Kaserne entrance is just past the warehouse on the left. After going through the gate, take the second left and Bldg. 625 will be the last building on the left.



Keep your motor runnin' Day Trippin'

By Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers
Public Affairs

With the closure of the Rhein-Main Auto Skills Center Wednesday, members of the Team Rhein-Main must hit the road in search of car care facilities.

Two of the closest and best equipped military facilities are Mainz-Kastel and Hanau. Both locations offer Army and Air Force Exchange Service car care centers and auto craft shops, the Army's version of the Air Force auto skills center.

The AAFES facilities at each location offer minor maintenance to include oil changes, brake inspections and service, wheel alignments and cooling system service. Labor is \$62 an hour and an oil change with lubrication runs \$12.95 (oil and filter not included).

They do not offer electrical, diagnostic, transmission or engine block services. They do offer a wide range of tires, including many of the top brands.

The Mainz-Kastel AutoPride ServiCenter has a parts store, parts ordering service and a service order

desk. Oil changes are mostly by appointment only Monday-Friday. Walk-ins are taken at 7 a.m., but open slots are usually filled by 7:15 a.m., according to the staff.

Oil changes begin at 8 a.m. Saturdays on a first come, first serve basis.

Although the facility carries many different types of oil filters and oil, customers are encouraged to call ahead to make sure the correct filter is in stock.

It takes about three weeks to get special order parts from the states and about three days if the parts are in Germany, although the cost is higher.

The auto craft shop at Mainz-Kastel offers stalls for \$4 an hour or lifts and pits for \$5 an hour for the do-it-yourselfers. They also offer welding services, cutting of disc or rotors and a diagnostic machine for 2000 model or older vehicles and oil changes for \$15 (you must supply filter and oil).

At the Hanau AAFES facility, oil changes are by appointment only, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

The auto craft shop at Hanau offers stalls or lifts and pits.



The Mainz-Kastel AAFES AutoPride center is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays. The auto craft shop at Mainz-Kastel is open from noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. It's closed on Mondays and U.S. holidays. The AAFES Car Center at Hanau is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The auto craft shop is open from 1 - 9 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. The shop is closed on Mondays and U.S. holidays.



Prices are the same at AAFES locations in Mainz-Kastel and Hanau. Labor is \$62 an hour. An oil change is \$12.95 (oil and filter not included). A cooling system service is \$49.95 (parts and coolant not included).



For more information on AAFES car care centers, log onto www.aafes.com. or call 061344013 for Mainz-Kastel and 0618154011 for Hanau. You can reach the Mainz-Kastel Auto Craft Shop at DSN 334-2460 or Hanau at 322-8625.